



## NEWS RELEASE

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## Man Sentenced to Prison for Monterey Park Murder

A 20-year-old man was sentenced today to 16 years to life in state prison for fatally stabbing another man in 2014, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

On March 18, a jury found Angel Octavion Garcia guilty of second-degree murder in case GA095071.

Jurors also found true a special allegation that the defendant personally used a deadly and dangerous weapon, a knife, during the commission of the crime.

Deputy District Attorney Theodore Swanson, who prosecuted the case, said on Oct. 14, 2014, Garcia stabbed Edward Mendoza, 35, in a Monterey Park parking lot.

After the attack, Mendoza called 911 and said he had been assaulted before ultimately succumbing to his injuries while on the phone, the prosecutor said.

Soon after the incident, a person came forward to police and revealed Garcia had confessed to stabbing a man. Eight days later, police arrested Garcia in connection with the killing, the prosecutor added.

At trial, the prosecutor argued Garcia stabbed Mendoza after he was humiliated over a failed drug transaction involving another person from earlier in the night.

The defendant took his anger out on Mendoza. The two men did not know each other, the prosecutor added.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

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[About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#)

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.